

[Lesson 2: All Things According to His Will](#) [Class Member Study Guide](#)

**Purpose:** To help us see, through the examples of Lehi and Nephi, that safety and salvation come through obedience to the Lord.

†1. President Heber J. Grant

†2. Elder Bruce R. McConkie

**1. Lehi leaves Jerusalem and takes his family into the wilderness.**

†3. Ted L. Gibbons

†4. President Spencer W. Kimball

†5. Oliver Huntington

• [1 Nephi 1:4-15, 18-20; 2:1-3](#) Circumstances leading to Lehi's departure into the wilderness.

**Why did the people of Jerusalem reject the message of Lehi and other prophets?**

• See [1 Ne. 1:19-20; 2:12-13; 16:1-1](#)

• [1 Ne. 2:19-20, 22](#) God's promises to Nephi for keeping the commandments.

• [1 Ne. 2:21,23-24](#) **What would happen to Laman and Lemuel if they rebelled?**

**Why do some people today rebel against the Lord and His servants?**

**How do you think Lehi's family felt having to leave their home, possessions, and friends?**

**What sacrifices have you made to be obedient to the Lord?**

**How have you been blessed as you have made such sacrifices?**

• [1 Ne. 2:6-7](#) "After three days in the wilderness, Lehi built an altar and gave thanks to the Lord."

**How can we develop feelings of gratitude even in difficult circumstances?**

**What important blessings resulted from Lehi's obeying the Lord and leaving Jerusalem?**

**2. Nephi and his brothers return to Jerusalem to obtain the plates of brass.**

• [1 Ne. 3:1-7](#) **How does Nephi and Laman and Lemuel each respond?**

**If you had been asked to make the three-day trip back to Jerusalem, how would you respond?**

**What difference would it make to know that the Lord had asked it of you?**

• [1 Ne. 3:9—4:38](#) Their efforts to obtain the plates.

**How did the Lord "prepare a way" for Nephi to keep His command?**

**How has the Lord prepared ways for you to keep His commandments?**

†Chart: Nephi, Laman and Lemuel Comparison.

†6. Elder Charles A. Didier

†7. Elder Charles A. Didier

"Although Laman and Lemuel obeyed their father by going into the wilderness and then returning to Jerusalem for the brass plates, they murmured and rebelled repeatedly during the family's journeyings." (*Lesson Manual*)

†8. President Gordon B. Hinckley

• [1 Ne. 4:31-34](#) "Zoram knew that Nephi would never break his oath." (*Lesson Manual*)

**Why is it important that we be known as people who keep our word?**

**3. Nephi and his brothers bring the brass plates to their family.**

• [1 Ne. 5:1-9](#) **How did their return strengthen Sariah's testimony?**

**What did the brass plates contain? (See [1 Ne. 5:10-16; 13:23](#).)**

**What prophecies did Lehi make about the brass plates? (See [1 Ne. 5:17-19](#).)**

**How are these prophecies being fulfilled?**

**4. Nephi and his brothers return to Jerusalem for Ishmael and his family.**

• [1 Ne. 7:1-2](#) **Why did Nephi and his brothers return again to Jerusalem?**

• [1 Ne. 7:4-5](#) **How were Ishmael and his family persuaded to join Lehi's family?**

• [1 Ne. 7:6-7](#) **Why did Laman and Lemuel and some children of Ishmael rebel later?**

• [1 Ne. 7:13-15](#) **How did Nephi respond to their rebellion?**

• [1 Ne. 2:17-18; 7:21](#) **What qualities did Nephi exhibit in his dealings with his brothers?**

**How can we develop these qualities in our relationships with family members and others?**

(*Book of Mormon Manual – LDS Institute* (Religion 121-122). (You can download a PDF manual free.)

Next Week: Lesson 3: The Vision of the Tree of Life [1 Nephi 8-11; 12:16-18; 15](#) † •

†1. **President Heber J. Grant:** "I read the Book of Mormon as a young man and fell in love with Nephi more than any other character in profane or sacred history that I ever read, except the Savior of the world. No other individual has made such a strong impression upon me as did Nephi. He has been one of the guiding stars in my life." (*Gospel Standards*, p.357)

†2. **Elder Bruce R. McConkie:** "As to the house of Joseph, their inheritance is in the Americas, even as Father Jacob promised in the blessing given to Joseph, that he should be 'a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall,' and that the blessings of Joseph should prevail above those of all the other tribes and extend 'unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills' ." (*The Mortal Messiah*, 4:336-337)

†3. **Ted L. Gibbons:** In a very real sense, what we are reading in 1st Nephi is a journal. The Lord intends to do miraculous things with this journal, and Nephi prepares it in such a way that it can be preserved, but it is nevertheless a journal. Nephi calls it a "record of my proceedings in my days." (1 Nephi 1:1) He later tells us that it is a journal of his spiritual experiences. He says, "And it mattereth not to me that I am particular to give a full account of all the things of my father, for they cannot be written upon these plates, for I desire the room that I may write of the things of God." (1 Nephi 6:3, emphasis added) ([Ted Gibbons](#), "All Things According To His Will, online PDF)

†4. **President Spencer W. Kimball:** "Let us then continue on in this important work of recording the things we do, the things we say, the things we think, to be in accordance with the instructions of the Lord. For those of you who may not have already started your books of remembrance and your records, we would suggest that this very day you begin to write your records quite fully and completely. We hope that you will do this, our brothers and sisters, for this is what the Lord has commanded." (*The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball*, p.349)

†5. **Oliver Huntington:** "Many times have I wished that my father had kept an account of his life, that I might look over it, and see his by-gone days, deed and fortune; and never did he make the scratch of a pen towards it, until he had seen sixty cold winters; and as yet I know but very little of his life, not enough to make any record of, although I have a very short account written, but which is beyond my reach at present, if not forever. Like men in general I presume to suppose, that I shall have a posterity; and that may; like me; wish to know of their father's life, that they might view it, and perhaps profit thereby, or at least, have the satisfaction of knowing it. This is one object that induces me to write; that my

nearest kindred, might know of their kinsman. I write also for a satisfaction to myself, to look over my past life, dates and events, and to comply with a requirement, oft repeated by the prophet Joseph Smith, 'That every man should keep a daily journal.'" (*Oliver Huntington Autobiography*, BYU-Special Collections, p.26. Cited in [Ted Gibbons](#), "All Things According To His Will, online PDF)

†6. **Elder Charles A. Didier:** "May I point out to you that if you have one foot in the Church and the other foot in the world, and that if the world is moving in one direction and the Church is moving in the other direction, it is going to hurt very soon!" ("The Art of Living," BYU Fireside Address on 4 May 1989)

†7. **Elder Charles A. Didier:** "I was in Ogden this morning participating in a stake conference, and I had an opportunity to talk briefly with a professor. He is involved in a lot of social work, helping people solve their problems. What he told me was quite interesting. He said, "Everyone who comes into my office has had a problem for one reason: They have broken one of the commandments, and that has resulted in their problem." Now, it is always the same old lesson. Are we foolish enough that we will not accept the lessons from the gospel, from our teachers, from a living prophet? Or do we still prefer to go our own way, following our own "art of living" which is not the right kind of living?" ("The Art of Living," BYU Fireside Address on 4 May 1989)

†8. **President Gordon B. Hinckley** received a difficult assignment from his Mission President. Fulfilling it strengthened his testimony of the Lord's help and he said: "Sometimes it is the very assignment we would avoid that gives us a great blessing." ...

After meeting with the publisher of an anti-Mormon book he testified:

"I came to know that when we try in faith to walk in obedience to the requests of the priesthood, the Lord opens the way, even when there appears to be no way." ("If Ye Be Willing and Obedient," *Ensign*, July 1995, 2)

### Recommended Reading:

President Gordon B. Hinckley, ("[If Ye Be Willing and Obedient](#)," *Ensign*, July 1995, 2.

President Marion G. Romney, "[The Book of Mormon](#)," *Ensign*, May 1980, 67.

President Ezra Taft Benson, "[The Book of Mormon—Keystone of Our Religion](#)," *Ensign*, Nov. 1986, 4-7.

Visit [www.stephenmbird.com/library/gospel-doctrine](http://www.stephenmbird.com/library/gospel-doctrine) †

<b>Nephi</b>	<b>Laman and Lemuel</b>
1:1 Knew he had “goodly parents”	2:11 Murmured against their father
2:16 Believed all the words spoken by his father	2:13 Did not believe all Lehi’s words
2:16, 19 Went to the Lord for understanding	2:12 “Knew not the dealings of . . . God”
3:7 Was willing to go and do what the Lord commanded	3:5 Complained that the Lord had asked “a hard thing”
3:15 Refused to return without the records	3:14 Wanted to give up after one try
4:1,3 Knew that the Lord was “mightier than Laban”	3:31 Doubted that the Lord could deliver Laban to them